IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Shinji YAMAKAWA

Serial No.: Unknown Group Art Unit: Unknown

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For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING CHARACTER EDGE AREA DATA

I, Ken I. Yoshida, Registration No. 37,009 certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

On April 10, 2001

Ken I. Yoshida Reg. No. 37,009

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE

The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 2-294884 discloses an image separation technique to determine character regions based upon the lowest level color component image data.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 2-295357 discloses an image separation technique to determine a dot pattern based upon the lowest level color component image data.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 10-23251 discloses an image separation device and technique to tertiorize image data to extract white regions and black regions and the extracted regions are further compared to a set of predetermined matching patterns to select line image edges.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 10-108012 discloses an image separation device and technique to detect areas, dot pattern regions, white background regions, and based upon the above detection, the regions are determined as a part of a character or a picture.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 3-64251 discloses a control technique in which an operator modifies a SEG signal to determine a scanning direction intensity change detection level T1, a sub-scanning direction intensity change detection level T2, a diagonal scanning direction intensity change detection level T3 and a dot pattern determination level T4 for determining a character/picture determination so as to adjust priority for the character processing or the photograph processing based upon the character/picture determination.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 5-292312 discloses a prior art technique to detect a dot pattern peak pixel and to determine a calculated value for distribution of the dot pattern peak pixel in a predetermined size area. The calculated value is compared to a threshold value to determine whether or not the predetermined size is a dot pattern region.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 9-247481 discloses a prior art technique for dot pattern determination for each of C, M and Y image data.

Japanese Patent No. 2856867 discloses a prior art color processing device for applying single black color in a black character region that is a picture area which is surrounded by black character edge regions.

Japanese Patent Publication Hei 7-95397 discloses a prior art device to detect edges and high intensity regions in order to prevent the blurring of small characters and white regions

inside thick lines of high-intensity thick characters. The prior art device recognizes that high-intensity regions surrounded by edges within a predetermined distance is a character region. The prior art device provides an appropriate process for each of the recognized regions.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 10, 2001

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